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10/22/2019 **NEWS RELEASE** 

# **Traffic Fatalities and Safety Tips**

Date: October 22, 2019

El Paso, Texas- The number of recent traffic fatalities has brought a heightened awareness of the potential dangers on the roadway. Every death on a roadway is a preventable tragedy. There is no single answer, but working together, we can all do our part to reduce crashes. Traffic safety is everyone's responsibility. Below is some insightful data to consider:

- 55 traffic fatalities year to date
- 25 pedestrian fatalities (16 pedestrian at fault collisions and 9 driver at fault collisions)
- 16 pedestrian fatalities occurred during nighttime
- 7 pedestrians have been on the freeway
- Age groups: Under 10 (1 fatality in school zone); 10 15 (1); 15 -20 (2); 20 -29 (6); 30-39 (0); 40-49 (2); 50-59 (5); 60 and above (8)
- Through the end of September, over 100,000 traffic citations have been issued; over 2,200 DWI related arrests

## Tips for Pedestrians:

- Always cross at crosswalks or intersections and obey all traffic laws
- Be visible- at nighttime wear light colored clothing, use a reflective vest and or use a flashlight
- Always yield to vehicles, regardless whether you have the right of way or not. Even if you are right, a
  vehicle will win every time
- Make eye contact, wait for some type of acknowledgement from drivers that they have seen you

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# Tips for Drivers:

- Concentrate on driving, watch the roadway at all times, and obey all traffic laws
- Be mindful of other drivers and pedestrians
- Anticipate unexpected actions and be for prepared to react accordingly without panicking
- Expect pedestrians to be crosswalks or intersections and be prepared to yield to them
- Make eye contact with pedestrians, look for some type of acknowledgement that they have seen you

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